

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1-16 (canceled)

17 (currently amended). A method for performing a startup session to establish a high speed communication session, comprising:

having a first communication system transmit a first predetermined signal to a second communication system, the first communication system and the second communication system both supporting a half duplex operating mode, the first predetermined signal being phase reversed at predetermined intervals;

detecting the first predetermined signal at the second communication system, the second communication system responding to the first communication system by transmitting a selected signal;

halting, for a predetermined time period, the transmission of the first predetermined signal by the first communication system when the selected signal is detected by the first

communication system, a second predetermined signal indicating a half duplex operating mode [[,]] being transmitted by the first communication system upon an expiration of the predetermined time period, the second communication system stopping the transmission of the selected signal upon detection of the second predetermined signal; and

acknowledging the half-duplex mode by the second communication system by the turning OFF of the selected signal, so that a high speed half-duplex mode communication session is established, wherein the halting of the selected signal and the second predetermined signal are associated with a change in system state.

2 18<sup>1</sup>(original). The method of claim 17, the first communication system comprising a remote system, the second communication system comprising a central office system.

3 19<sup>1</sup>(original). The method of claim 17, wherein the first communication system and the second communication system each support a high speed xDSL communication session.

4 20<sup>1</sup> (previously amended). The method of claim 17, wherein having the first communication system transmit the first predetermined signal comprises transmitting the first predetermined signal from at least one signal family.

21 (canceled).

5 <sup>1</sup>22 (original). The method of claim 17, further comprising having the first communication system re-transmit the second predetermined signal when the half-duplex mode is not acknowledged by the second communication system, so as to re-try establishing the high-speed half-duplex mode communication session.

6 23 (original). The method of claim <sup>1</sup>17, further comprising establishing a low-speed communication session if a high-speed half-duplex mode communication session can not be established.

7 <sup>6</sup>24 (original). The method of claim 23, wherein the low-speed communication session comprises a communication session occupying an approximate 4 kHz bandwidth.

25-51 (canceled).

8 <sup>1</sup>52 (previously presented). The method of claim 17, further comprising having the first communication system re-transmit a third predetermined signal when the half-duplex mode is not acknowledged by the second communication system, so as to try establishing a full-duplex mode communication session.

9 53 (previously presented). A method for performing a startup session to establish a

high speed communication session, comprising:

having a first communication system transmit a first predetermined signal to a second communication system, the first communication system and the second communication system both supporting a half duplex operating mode, the first predetermined signal being phase reversed at predetermined intervals;

detecting the first predetermined signal at the second communication system, the second communication system responding to the first communication system by transmitting a C-TONES signal;

halting, for a predetermined time period, the transmission of the first predetermined signal by the first communication system when the C-TONES signal is detected by the first communication system, a R-FLAG signal, indicating a half duplex operating mode, being transmitted by the first communication system upon an expiration of the predetermined time period, the second communication system stopping the transmission of the C-TONES signal upon detection of the R-FLAG signal; and

acknowledging the half-duplex mode by the second communication system by the turning OFF of the C-TONES signal, so that a high speed half-duplex mode communication session is established.

10 54<sup>9</sup>(previously presented). The method of claim 53, the first communication system comprising a remote system, the second communication system comprising a central office

system.

11 <sup>9</sup>55 (previously presented). The method of claim <sup>9</sup>53, wherein the first communication system and the second communication system each support a high speed xDSL communication session.

12 <sup>9</sup>56 (previously presented). The method of claim <sup>9</sup>53, wherein having the first communication system transmit the first predetermined signal comprises transmitting the first predetermined signal from at least one signal family.

13 <sup>9</sup>57 (previously presented). The method of claim <sup>9</sup>53, further comprising having the first communication system re-transmit the second predetermined signal when the half-duplex mode is not acknowledged by the second communication system, so as to re-try establishing the high-speed half-duplex mode communication session.

14 <sup>9</sup>58 (previously presented). The method of claim <sup>9</sup>53, further comprising establishing a low-speed communication session if a high-speed half-duplex mode communication session can not be established.

15 <sup>14</sup>59 (previously presented). The method of claim <sup>14</sup>58, wherein the low-speed

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communication session comprises a communication session occupying an approximate 4 kHz bandwidth.